

Terrebonne Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Terrebonne	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	19.1%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	26.1%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	5.9%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,578	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	92.1%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	5.5%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	11.3	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	85.5%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	81.8%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	10.5%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	17.7%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	NA	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	418.2	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	156.0	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	7.4*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	196.3	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	210.5	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	49.1	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	43.4	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	34.0	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	33.0	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	4.3	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	2.2	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 3	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	27.8%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI>30 (adults 20+)	31.4%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	75.7%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	85.1%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	73.9%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United States, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EMS/Injury Research & Prevention Program

Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

Terrebonne Parish, chronologically the 26th parish created, was established in April 1822 from a portion of Lafourche Parish. The derivation of the name Terrebonne, “good land,” seems fully justified because of the rich alluvial lands comprising the area. Of interesting note are the forerunners of the present highway system, which follow the paths of the numerous bayous. They were developed from the towpaths along each stream used when there was not sufficient breeze to drive the sails upstream.



Prior to 1765 there were very few white settlers. Notable among them, however, was Captain Dautrine. In that year Acadians arrived in the area, coming via Santa Domingo. Early parish settler's names include Royal, Belanger, Provost, Marlborough, Duplantis and Grinage. While the citizens enjoy a world of the slower life-style from the Spanish and French influence-savoring each day and appreciating the simpler things in life-today Terrebonne Parish is recognized throughout the nation as one of the most important petroleum centers, and fishing, farming and fur-trapping communities. This growth and development is sure to continue with forward-looking usage of its wealth of natural resources. One hour driving time from New Orleans on U.S. 90 West, travelers will find the bayou city of Houma, seat of Terrebonne Parish. Travel a coast road to see the natural beauty of Cajun Country. Visitors will enjoy the swamp scenery, especially the alligators, nutria, and varieties of birds in the wild.

Parish Seat³ Houma

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

- Houma
- Bayou Cane⁴
- Schriever

Parish Population⁵

2000.....	104,503
2003 (estimate)	106,107
2000 Population by Race	
White.....	74.1%
African-American	17.8%
Some other race.....	8.1%
Hispanic of Latino (of any race)	1.6%
2000 Population by Age	
Under 5 years	7.4%
5-14	16.4%
15-17	5.4%
18-19	3.3%
20-24	6.8%
25-64	50.9%
65 & over	9.7%

Geography and Statistics⁶

Average elevation	15ft.
Land area in square miles	1255
Water area in square miles	825

Climate

Average temperatures	
Annual.....	68°
January	62°
July	90°
Annual average rainfall.....	63 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁷

Terrebonne Parish	
Civilian.....	52,339
Employed	50,079
Unemployed.....	2,260
Unemployment.....	4.3%
Louisiana	
Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Delgado Community College
- Dillard University
- Louisiana State University Medical Center
- Loyola University
- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
- Nicholls State University
- Notre Dame School of Theology
- Our Lady of Holy Cross College
- Southern University and A&M College at New Orleans
- Tulane University
- University of New Orleans
- Xavier University

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism, 1998. keywords: regional information, <<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. A Census Designated Place is "a densely settled concentration of population that is not within an incorporated place, but is locally identified by a name", such as Bayou Cane and Schriever in Terrebonne Parish.
5. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
7. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary <http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.